

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Silke Hein, Brigitte Söhling, Gerhard Gottschalk, and Alexander Steinbüchel

Serial No.: 09/380,773

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: September 03, 1999

Examiner: Y. Pak

For: *METHODS FOR THE BIOSYNTHESIS OF POLYESTERS*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on October 22, 2001, please amend the application as follows. A Petition for an Extension of Time for one month, up to and including February 22, 2002, is enclosed. It is believed that no additional fee is required with this submission. However, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1868.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-37.

38. (Amended) A method for the preparation of a polyester, comprising the steps of:

- [a] obtaining a cell capable of producing
- i) a polyhydroxyalkanoic acid synthase protein; and
 - ii) a fatty acid:acyl-coenzyme A transferase protein;
- b) establishing a culture of the cell;

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